

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Previously Presented) A method for creating a business process model, the method comprising the steps of:

- defining an activity state, the activity state corresponding to a human-based or manual step;
- identifying one or more performers for the activity state; and
- designating a task, associated with the activity state, as reassignable to indicate that the task activity state may be moved between performers of the activity state.

2. (Original) A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising the step of defining reference data, the reference data being information that is to be made available to the performers of the activity state.

3. (Original) A method as recited in claim 2 wherein the reference data is made exclusively available to the performers of the activity state.

4. (Original) A method as recited in claim 2 wherein the reference data is also made available to performers of a second activity state.

5. (Cancelled).

6. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the business process model is created using Uniform Modeling Language constructs.

7. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a business process management system, the method comprising the steps of:

- receiving an event;

receiving an event;

causing a business process object to transition to an activity state

corresponding to the event, wherein the activity state includes a data structure that comprises business process object reference data;

identifying one or more performers for the activity state;

creating a task for each performer; and

completing the task, wherein any changes made to the business process reference data during completion of the task are collected; and

updating the business process object reference data to incorporate any changes that were made during execution of the activity state ~~waiting for each task to be completed within an allotted time period.~~

8. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim 7 wherein if the allotted time period to complete a task expires ~~causing~~ the business process object to transitions ~~transition~~ from the activity state.

9. (Original) A method as recited in claim 7 further comprising the steps of providing each performer with reference data for the activity state.

10. (Original) A method as recited in claim 9 wherein the reference data is made exclusively available to the performers of the activity state.

11. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim ~~[[9]]~~ 10 wherein the reference data is also made available to the performers of a second activity state.

12. (Cancelled).

13. (Currently Amended) A method as recited in claim ~~[[12]]~~ 7 further comprising the step of conditionally selecting a transition out of the activity state based on the changed ~~retrieved-modified~~ reference data.

14. (Original) A method as recited in claim 7, further comprising the steps of:
receiving a second event; and
applying the second event to the activity state only if the event is targeted to the activity state.

15. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 12, further comprising:
selecting ~~modified~~ reference data changed ~~made~~ by the at least one performer
and merging it with the associated business process object.

16. (Currently Amended) A method for creating a business process model, the method comprising the steps of:
defining ~~an activity~~ state, the ~~activity~~ state corresponding to either an automated step or a human-based step; and
if the ~~activity~~ state is defined as an automated step, performing the activity to be achieved is in the step state through the use of an application program to complete the step, and
if the ~~activity~~ state is defined as a human based step, ~~identifying one or more performers for the~~ modeling the state using an activity state, wherein one or more performers are employed to complete the step.

17. (Currently Amended) A method of providing an automated business process model in combination with human based events, the method comprising the steps of:
receiving a an event;
causing a business process object to transition to an activity state

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